

Hopland Bypass

A Caltrans publication dedicated to the Route 101 – Hopland Bypass – Freeway/Expressway Project

More Progress and Moving Forward!

**"We Accept
Nothing Less Than
Project Success"**

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Project Website

The project now has an Internet site that you can bookmark to find the latest information on the project. Information on this site will include the project status, historical information, and other project information. The site will also keep you informed of any upcoming meetings and allow you to post questions or comments. Please use your internet browser to navigate to the following site:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist3/departments/environmental/hopland/index.htm>

A Note from the Project Manager

As the Project Manager for the Hopland Bypass, I am pleased to bring you the second newsletter for this project. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep interested parties, such as community members, resource and regulatory agencies, businesses, special interest groups, and other public agencies, apprised of our recent accomplishments and upcoming activities for the project.

Recently we formed a Community Advisory Committee comprised of the residents of the Hopland area. We are also continuing preparations for the Value Analysis Study that will begin in May of this year. The following articles will highlight our progress with respect to both of these important efforts.

I continue to welcome your interest and involvement in this project. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project, please contact me at:

Alan Escarda, Project Manager
Caltrans – District 1
PO BOX 3700
Eureka, CA 95502-3700
(707) 441-2097
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A Year In Review

This past year was a great challenge for the Hopland Bypass Project Development Team. Due to budget constraints and staffing changes, the project experienced some delays. Thankfully, due to the great dedication of the project team, we continued to move forward with the project goals. Highlighted below, are the significant accomplishments of this year and a list of expectations for the coming year.

Accomplishments

- Conducted Preliminary Archeological Studies
- Ongoing Traffic Studies
- Field Surveys Complete
- Ongoing Design Efforts
- Open House Held in December
- Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Formed
- Project Development Team (PDT) Meeting Held in June 2002

Upcoming Activities:

- Upcoming CAC Meetings May 2003
- Value Analysis Study May 2003
- Complete Environmental Field Reviews December 2003
- Open House September 2003
- PDT Meeting October 2003



Members of the CAC at the Kickoff meeting held in February.

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Formed

In December, Caltrans held a public meeting in Hopland to seek members of the community to serve on a Community Advisory Committee (CAC). These local representatives were selected following the meeting:

- Tom Ashurst
- Peter R. Bradford
- Colin Brooks
- Don Ray
- Leonard J. Brutocao
- Michael Burke
- Todd Derum
- Tiffany Gibson
- Avalyn Kong
- Richard Henwood
- Brian Manning
- Michael Milovina
- Ted Starr
- Terry Rosetti
- William T. Reed
- Greg Taylor
- Susanne Zechiel

The CAC will serve as the primary voice of the community on topics pertaining to the development phase of the project. Caltrans will look to the CAC for providing community perspectives, and assist in communicating with the entire

community regarding this project. The CAC is intended to help identify potential impacts and articulate key issues of interest to the local community.

The CAC Kickoff meeting was held in February of this year. The purpose was to meet the team, identify roles, and to discuss the upcoming Value Analysis Study (VA Study). The team discussed community issues, concerns, and project impacts, and is now working to prioritize an issue list that will be useful to the VA Team. The CAC will continue to discuss its contribution to the VA Study at future meetings.

Next Meeting

The next CAC meeting will be held on May 1st, at the UC Davis Extension Center - Field Station, from 6:00pm-8:00pm. For more information, you may contact Alan Escarda, Project Manager, at (707) 441-2097.



Project Timeline

Caltrans is in the preliminary design and environmental stages of this project. The desired outcome will be an approved Project Report and Environmental Document. These documents will describe all alternatives considered, and the rationale for a selected alternative.

Below is a chronological timeline for the project through the completion of the environmental document.

- **CAC Meeting**
May 1, 2003
- **VA Study**
 - Week One – May 20-23, 2003
 - Week Two – June 3-6, 2003
- **Open House**
September 2003
- **Project Team Meeting**
October 2003
- **Conclude Environmental Studies**
December 2004
- **Circulate Draft Environmental Doc.**
September 2005
- **Public Hearing**
October 2005
- **Select Alternative**
January 2006
- **Project Approval and Environmental Document**
November 2006



Project Location Map



Value Analysis Study

A Value Analysis Study (VA) is scheduled to begin in mid May of this year. There are several reasons why Caltrans uses Value Analysis. They include: to build consensus with project stakeholders; help solve difficult problems; and identify cost savings while maintaining or improving project quality.

The specific goals of the Hopland Bypass VA team are to:

- Explore ways to construct the overall project (one project vs. several smaller projects), and still meet the project purpose and need.
- Analyze the feasibility of the proposed alternatives.
- Reduce construction cost.
- Reduce the life cycle cost of the project.
- Build consensus and resolve issues with stakeholders and other transportation partners.
- Validate project purpose and need.

The VA kickoff meeting will be held on May 20, 2003. The VA team will be conducting a presentation regarding the overall project and goals of the study. In addition, project stakeholders will be encouraged to present their concerns. The VA team will then work to identify and agree upon performance criteria for the purpose of evaluating and ranking ideas. The VA team will then meet for a second session where they will brainstorm and evaluate all presented ideas, using the performance criteria. A technical review will then be held where reviewers identify the most promising solution. The final phase of the VA Study will be a meeting to present the findings of the team, stakeholders, and decision makers. Any additional questions at this time will be included in the final report when it is published.

When the report is approved, an implementation meeting will follow (tentatively scheduled for July 2003).

The following steps identify the VA Study process in more detail:

1. Pre-Study Preparation
 - Initiate Study
 - Organize Study
 - Prepare Data
2. Study
 - Inform Team
 - Analyze Functions
 - Create Ideas
 - Evaluate Ideas
 - Critique Alternatives
 - Develop Alternatives
 - Present Alternatives
 - Assess Alternatives
 - Resolve Alternatives
 - Present Results
3. Report
 - Publish Results
 - Close out Studies

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Please add me to the Hopland Bypass Mailing List. Detach and mail this coupon to Caltrans, PO BOX 3700, Eureka, CA 95502-3700.
ATTN: Alan Escarda, Project Manager

Or join via the Hopland Bypass Website at:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist3/departments/environmental/hopland/index.htm>

About Our Organization...

The California Department of Transportation is headquartered in Sacramento, California. Responsible for many facets of transportation, we seek to improve mobility across California's scenic North Coast. We do this in partnership with state and local governmental agencies, as well as regional transportation planning agencies that are chartered throughout the District. District 1 is headquartered in the City of Eureka, Humboldt County, California. The District Director is Rick Knapp. It includes the counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, and Mendocino.

The North Coast depends on our highway infrastructure for commuting, commerce, and tourism. Route 101, has often been characterized as the "lifeline of the North Coast." Maintaining that route, and our highway system in general, in terrain that varies from mountainous to valley profiles, and from lake settings to coastline can be very challenging; especially in those areas where rainfall amounts are high and soil conditions are unstable.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.dot.ca.gov

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